

wishes to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 2, 3, and 7-13. Claim 4 has been amended. As amended, independent claim 4 is believed to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and the allowance of claim 4 is respectfully requested. Claims 5 and 6 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 4 and thus are also believed to be allowable and the allowance of claims 5 and 6 is also respectfully requested.

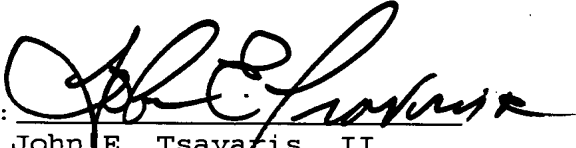
Applicant believe that this Application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: May 18, 2000

By:

  
John E. Tsavaris, II  
Reg. No. 33,804  
One Broadway  
New York, NY 10004  
(212) 425-7200